



U.S. Department of Justice

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For Immediate Release:

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EVENT: Sentencing

Defendant: Karl Kaechele

**FLORIDA MAN SENTENCED TO 110 MONTHS IN PRISON FOR TRAVELING TO SOUTHEAST
ASIA TO HAVE SEX WITH CHILDREN**

Karl Kaechele, 65, was sentenced to 110 months in custody for two counts of traveling in interstate and foreign commerce with the intent to engage in illicit sexual conduct, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today.

U.S. Attorney Murphy was joined in the announcement by Brian Moskowitz, Special Agent

in Charge of the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in Detroit.

The case arose out of a April 2005 arrest of Kaechele at the Detroit Metropolitan Airport. On that date, Kaechele was returning from a trip to Southeast Asia. The investigation into Kaechele's travel revealed that while overseas Kaechele committed sexual acts on several minors, some as young as 8 or 9 years of age. Kaechele frequented brothels in Vietnam, Thailand, and Cambodia to pay to have sex with both young girls and adult women. Kaechele made several trips to Southeast Asia for this purpose over several years. Kaechele kept

detailed notes of his sexual activity with these girls and women, describing the sex acts committed as well as the amount of money he paid.

United States Attorney Murphy said, "Make no mistake, our law prohibits American citizens from traveling abroad in order to sexually molest minor children. Regardless of the reason – whether it's conditions of poverty or corrupt law enforcement practices in foreign lands that are responsible for fostering such horrible things – we can and will prosecute anyone caught in the U.S. who travels to engage in 'child sexual tourism.'"

"As this sentence illustrates, Americans who travel abroad to prey on the children of other countries should clearly understand that their actions are not beyond the reach of U.S. law," said Brian M. Moskowitz, special agent in charge of the ICE Office of Investigation in Detroit. "ICE is committed to protecting those who cannot protect themselves. The victims of child sexual predators are at the top of that list." Moskowitz heads the ICE Office of Investigations for the states of Michigan and Ohio.

Murphy noted the diligence of the officers from the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection at the airport that disclosed Kaechele's numerous trips to Southeast Asia for the purpose of exploiting women and children. The Honorable Gerald E. Rosen imposed the sentence.

Assistant United States Attorneys John N. O'Brien II and Kevin M. Mulcahy prosecuted this case for the United States.

This prosecution was facilitated through Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide Department of Justice initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.

